UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. Peter G. Sheridan

v. : Crim. No. 10-285 (PGS)

RAUL GARCIA-MERCEDES : CONTINUANCE ORDER

This matter having come before the Court on the joint application of Paul J. Fishman, United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey (by Lakshmi Srinivasan Herman, Assistant U.S. Attorney), and defendant Raul Garcia-Mercedes (by Lisa Van Hoeck, AFPD) for an order granting a continuance of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter from February 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011 to allow'the parties to conduct plea negotiations and attempt to finalize a plea agreement, and the defendant being aware that he has the right to have the matter brought to trial within 70 days of the date of his appearance before a judicial officer of this court pursuant to Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 3161(c)(1), and as the defendant has consented to such a continuance, and for good and sufficient cause shown,

IT IS THE FINDING OF THIS COURT that this action should be continued for the following reasons:

 Plea negotiations are currently in progress, and both the United States and the defendant desire additional time to negotiate a plea agreement, which would render trial of this matter unnecessary;

- 2. The grant of a continuance will likely conserve judicial resources;
- 3. Pursuant to Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 3161(h)(7), the ends of justice served by granting the continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial.

WHEREFORE, on this _____ day of February, 2011,

ORDERED that the period from February 1, 2011, through April 30, 2011, shall be excludable in computing time under the Speedy Trial Act of 1974, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3161(h)(7); and it is further

ORDERED that:

- The Defendant shall file pretrial motions on or before February 25, 2011;
- The Government shall respond to such motions on or before March 25, 2011;
 - 3. Pretrial motions shall be heard on

2011 of 12:00 P.M.

4. Trial shall commence on April 36, 3011 at 10:00 a.m.

SO ORDERED

United States District Judge

Form and entry consented to:

Lakshmi Srinivasan Herman Assistant U.S. Attorney

Lisa Van Hoeck, AFPD

Counsel for defendant Raul Garcia-Mercedes